

VIRGINIA'S MINERAL AND TIMBER RESOURCES EXPLOITED

Governor Swanson Took the Lead and Drew Around Him Strong Men.

RESPONSE OF RAILROADS

All Principal Lines Entered Into Hearty Co-operation With Other Interests.

One of the most beautiful and elaborate exhibits being shown at the Jamestown Exposition is that of the Virginia Mineral and Timber Exhibit Association, which gives to the visitor at once a comprehensive insight into the wonderful mineral and timber resources of the State.

Governor Swanson became interested in the great task of getting up a suitable exhibit along this line, and surrounded himself with many of the ablest and wealthiest men in the State. The railroad companies, the mine-owners and the timber-producers joined hands with the Governor, and their liberal responses and earnest efforts have built the splendid exhibit which is now being shown, and which in beauty and comprehensiveness is wonderful to look upon.

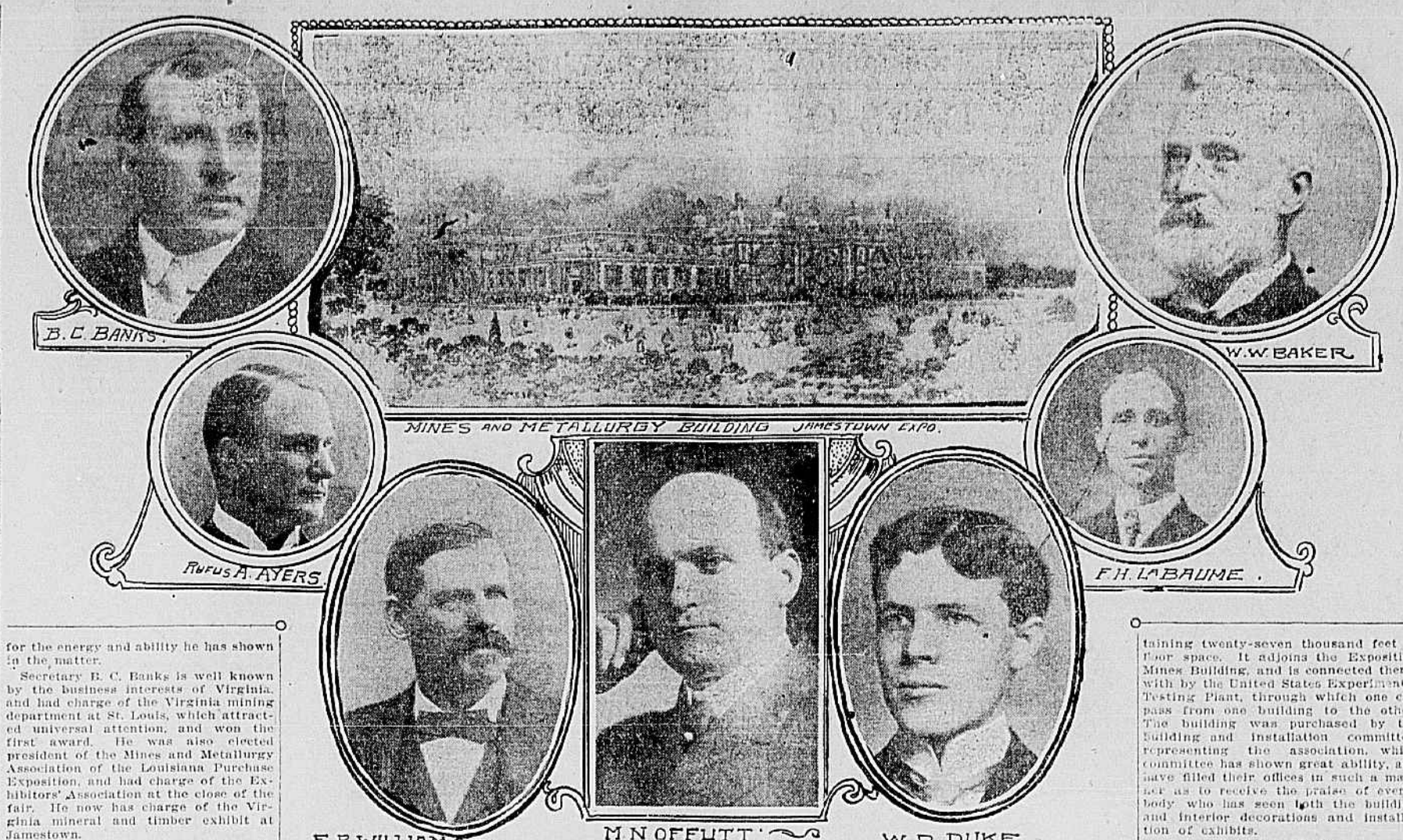
The Virginia Mineral and Timber Exhibit Association was organized at Roanoke on November 24, 1906, for the purpose of exploiting the resources of Virginia and to show the progressiveness of her mineral and timber operations.

Governor Swanson, L. E. Johnson, president of the Norfolk and Western; A. H. Reeder, general manager of Stonea Coal and Coke Company; M. V. Richards, of the Southern Railway Company, made earnest appeals to organize an association, which was done, with the following officers and committees:

Claude A. Swanson, president, Richmond, Va.; Rufus A. Ayers, vice-president, Big Stone Gap, Va.; Bruce C. Banks, secretary, Bland, Va.; W. W. Baker, treasurer, Hall'sboro, Va.; W. J. Fawcett, Richmond, Va.; M. V. Richards, Washington, D. C.; W. D. Duke, Philadelphia, Pa.; John W. Eckman, Pulaski, Va.; John B. Newton, Bristol, Va.; Robert J. Camp, Suffolk, Va.; Honorary Vice-Presidents: Thomas F. Ryan, New York, N. Y.; D. B. Wentz, Philadelphia, Pa.; John W. Eckman, Pulaski, Va.; John B. Newton, Bristol, Va.; Robert J. Camp, Suffolk, Va.; Charles Catlett, Staunton, Va.; John L. Roper, Norfolk, Va.; E. R. Williams, Richmond, Va.; William Foster, Schuylers, Va.

Directors—Claude A. Swanson, Richmond, Va.; Rufus A. Ayers, Big Stone Gap, Va.; C. E. Doyle, Richmond, Va.; W. J. Fawcett, Richmond, Va.; M. V. Richards, Washington, D. C.; W. D. Duke, Philadelphia, Pa.; John W. Eckman, Pulaski, Va.; John B. Newton, Bristol, Va.; Robert J. Camp, Suffolk, Va.; Charles Catlett, Staunton, Va.; John L. Roper, Norfolk, Va.; E. R. Williams, Richmond, Va.; William Foster, Schuylers, Va.

Governor Swanson has devoted much time and energy to make this exhibit a success and great credit is due him



for the energy and ability he has shown in the matter.

Secretary B. C. Banks is well known by the business interests of Virginia, and had charge of the Virginia mining department at St. Louis, which attracted universal attention, and won the first award. He was also elected president of the Mines and Metallurgy Association of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and had charge of the Exhibitors' Association at the close of the fair. He now has charge of the Virginia mineral and timber exhibit at Jamestown.

Mr. D. S. Blair, who was formerly connected with Tidewater Railway, is Mr. Banks' first assistant, and is regarded as a most capable man for the place.

The chairman of the various committees and those composing the latter have worked earnestly for the success of the exhibit, which is one of the handsomest and most elaborate ever shown in this country.

The association purchased a companion building to the Mines and Metallurgy Building, which cost them about \$30,000, and they have expended \$19,000 in decorations.

There are elegant reception-rooms, gentlemen's buffet, with all modern conveniences; baggage-room, mail de-

E. R. WILLIAMS

M. N. OFFUTT

W. D. DUKE

This illustration shows the building of the Virginia Mineral and Timber Exhibit Association and men who have been active in making the exhibit what it is.

partment, phone and telegraph and other conveniences for the members of the association and their friends while attending the exposition.

In round figures, the building and exhibits together cost \$100,000.

The Exhibitors.

The exhibitors who have special exhibits are the Norfolk and Western Railroad, Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, Southern Railway, Clinchfield Coal Corporation, Stonea Coal and

Coal Company, Virginia Coal and Coke Company, Virginia Anthracite Coal Company, Imboden Coal and Coke Company, Blackwood Coal and Coke Company, Pulaski Iron Company, Bertha Mineral Company, Colonial Coal and Coke Company, Internorm Coal and Coke Company, Tazewell Coal Land Corporation, Lee Coal Company, Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, and other mineral mines of Louisiana county, West Virginia Paper and Pulp Company, of Covington, Va.; Tug River

Lumber Company and other great lumber companies from Southwest Virginia; North Carolina Pine Association, Norfolk; Piedmont Sawtimber Company, Albemarle and other companies from Nelson county and many other operations in granites and other manufactures of Virginia minerals.

Building and Exhibit.

The exhibit of the Virginia Mineral and Timber Exhibit Association occupies a separate large structure con-

taining twenty-seven thousand feet of floor space. It adjoins the Exposition Mines Building, and is connected therewith by the United States Experimental Testing Plant, through which one can pass from one building to the other. The building was purchased by the building and installation committee, representing the association, which committee has shown great ability, and have filled their offices in such a manner as to receive the praise of everybody who has seen it. The building and interior decorations and installation of exhibits.

Interior Varies.

While the exterior of the building is in exact accord with the Exposition Mines Building, the interior is dissimilar in every respect; in fact, there is no other exhibit building on the grounds which has been finished on its interior with such a rich and elaborate display, both with regard to the amount of money expended and the completeness of the decorations and interior finish.

Upon entering the building, one is first impressed by the beautiful harmony displayed in the general color scheme, in which various shades of green combined with the glitter of marble and iron, and other minerals blend in the most harmonious effect.

Work in Charge of Secretary B. C. Banks, Who Is Trained Mineral Man.

BOUGHT FINE BUILDING

Regarded as Handsomest Mineral Exhibit Ever Shown in This Country.

The entire ceiling is paneled off with heavy girders sustained by arches, springing from massive columns, which are of solid antique bronze. This ornamentation in the bronze work is beautiful in the extreme. It is a combination of iron and stone, and is made to blend in a very pleasing and effective manner.

Harmony in Color.

One is impressed with the simple harmony in the color scheme and with the richness and splendor of the general effect. A touch of color is lent to the room by beautiful paintings, representing mining scenes, which adorn the walls in sufficient quantity to give one the impression of being in a very rich and effective manner. Large portraits of General Washington, Robert E. Lee, John Smith and Governor Swanson are hung in massive gold frames between the arches in suitable places on the walls. At the end of the room hangs a large picture representing a mining scene, hung in such a manner as to give one the impression of being in the interior of a beautiful theatre, looking towards the proscenium opening when the drop-curtain is down.

United States flags are draped in sufficient number to add to the beauty of the scene and give a dual patriotism and color in a room which is already beautiful without further decoration.

Where the Exhibit Is.

In the centre of the large hall stands the State mineral and timber exhibit, occupying a space of more than three thousand feet. The central trophy is designed in conformity with the balance of the building, and is octagonal in shape, sustained by eight massive solid bronze pillars of similar design to those supporting the roof. The trophy is a structure is crowned by a canopy reaching to a height of almost thirty feet. There are eight pedestals surrounding this structure, upon which stand massive bronzes urns containing flowers and palms, which add great charm and beauty to the structure.

The offices of the secretary is in the centre of this structure. Surrounding this is arranged one of the most complete and elaborate displays of minerals and fine timbers ever shown at any exposition. The resources of the State have been gathered with great care and profusion, and are exhibited in suitable plate-glass cases, which are of the best to be obtained for this purpose.

ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE EXPOSITION MOVEMENT

First Tangible Suggestion Came from Dr. S. C. Mitchell, of Richmond College.

In order that the public may have an opportunity of reviewing the history of the origin and progress of the movement which laid the foundation for the great Jamestown Exposition, care has been taken to compile all the facts and to place them into an accurate and concise article. It is true, that Dr. S. C. Mitchell, professor of history at Richmond College, and one of the most distinguished educators in the State, was primarily responsible for the origin of the movement, but the attention of the Legislature.

It may be that later some one else would have suggested it, but Colonel George Wayne Anderson, of this city, introduced in the House of Delegates the original resolutions out of which grew the movement now so happily consummated, gives Dr. Mitchell credit for the first public suggestion.

Dr. Mitchell, however, declares that though he did not know it at the time, he wrote communications to the Richmond papers suggesting that an exposition be held here, and that Dr. Mitchell had prior to that time proposed that the A. P. V. A. hold a celebration in honor of the occasion.

Dr. Mitchell therefore gives Mrs. Curry all the credit. It was upon Dr. Mitchell's communication that Colonel Anderson acted, however, for the patron of the original resolutions declares that this was the first and only suggestion he had heard or seen prior to the action of the Legislature.

Dr. Mitchell, which appeared in the Richmond Times-Dispatch of May 26, 1896, reads as follows:

"The year 1607 will mark the three-hundredth anniversary of the founding of Jamestown—the first permanent English colony in America. It will be an event of significance and ought to be fittingly observed.

"If this anniversary is to be significant it is emphatically appropriate that the observance take place in Richmond, the capital of Virginia, the Mother of States.

"Should such an event be best marked by an exposition in which would be gathered the memorials of our past, the evidence of our progress in agricultural, manufacturing and art, and full illustration of the products and conditions of our new possessions?

"If the Virginia press, and if the Chamber of Commerce and the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, now fit to hold such an enterprise for the year 1907, it is believed not only that the State and national governments would co-operate, but also that many foreign countries would be invited to participate.

"For the date which is intended thus to be commemorated is of universal historic interest to the world, and especially to all English-speaking people.

"Shall the energy and public spirit of Virginia take the initiative in fittingly marking the three-hundredth anniversary of the landing of our fathers on the banks of the James?"

country and its glorious history.

Of course, at the time Colonel Anderson did not know that the affair would assume such gigantic and gratifying proportions, but it was not long before the idea was entered into heartily by the Legislature, the press and the people, and it gradually spread into nearly every section of the country, laying strong hold as it went upon the minds of the people. Two resolutions were offered, one in the Senate and the other in the House. They were both adopted.

On January 31st Judge D. Gardiner Tyler, of Charles City,

presented a resolution, in response to action taken by citizens of the city of Williamsburg, calling for a celebration to be held at Jamestown May 12, 1907, and requesting that the President of the United States and Congress have charge of the affair.

The function contemplated in Judge Tyler's resolution was in no sense an expedition, and it was not an event of but a single day.

Meanwhile, Colonel Anderson, then a delegate from the city of Richmond, moved by the suggestions contained in Dr. Mitchell's letter, had prepared

the appended paper, which committed the Legislature to the view that an elaborate exposition should be held in one of the cities of the State in commemoration of the historic event.

Colonel Anderson had drawn the paper several days before it was presented, and when on the morning of February 1st, Judge Tyler's was reported to the House for consideration, the Richmond member offered his and it was passed by the lower branch and reported to the Senate.

Both resolutions were unanimously agreed to, and that of Colonel Anderson was the foundation for the great

exposition, whose gates swung wide to the world on yesterday.

The paper of Judge Tyler, while adopted, of course, was of no force until the Legislature met. It proceeded step by step, session by session, to act under that of Colonel Anderson.

But the great task of building the gigantic and beautiful structure, which promises to challenge the admiration of countless millions before it closes its gates in November, was not accomplished without persistent labor and the overcoming of serious difficulties in getting legislative sanction and support.

The adoption of Colonel Anderson's resolution was followed by a proclamation by Governor Tyler, commencing the readiness of the General Assembly to the authorities of the various counties and cities of the State.

In the session of 1901-2, Colonel Anderson had been elevated to the Senate, and the measure finally passed in the Senate. The measure was finally passed in the House by Mr. Whitehead, known as House Bill No. 86, carrying an appropriation of \$200,000.

Here Colonel Anderson made another fight, but this time he lost. He offered an amendment to the effect that the amount be appropriated for a State exposition to be managed by a commission, and not given to a private corporation.

This amendment provoked prolonged debate, but was finally defeated, and the bill passed.

It provided for the payment of the amount in yearly instalments, and required that the company should be able to show certain large amounts in actual cash collections before any portion of it should be available.

It will be recalled that this Legislature held several distinct sessions, and from time to time in order to get matters relating to the work of the Constitutional Convention in shape.

The final one in 1904, Mr. Stearnes, of Newport News, offered a resolution, which was adopted, inviting all the States in the Union to co-operate in making the exposition a success.

Colonel George Wayne Anderson Offered Original Resolutions in House of Delegates.

Over this bill there was a long and spirited controversy. As originally offered, it provided for no capital stock. Colonel Anderson got in one amendment fixing the capital stock at \$1,000,000.

The charter should become void unless the amount should be subscribed by January 1, 1904. In this form the bill passed.

The company proceeded to organize under the charter, and later to solicit subscriptions to the capital stock, but nothing further was done in the way of legislation until the session of 1902-3, at which time the company's companion bills exempting the company from the payment of charter fees and allowing cities and counties to appropriate money for exhibits.

From this appropriation bill was offered in this latter session, identical measures were presented in the House by Hon. John Whitehead, of Norfolk, and by Colonel W. W. Sale, in the Senate. The measure finally passed was that offered by Mr. Whitehead, known as House Bill No. 86, carrying an appropriation of \$200,000.

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